

Applicant : William D. Scott
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REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified patent application. Claims 1-2 and 4-8 remain in the application. Claims 1-2 and 4-6 are amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 3 is canceled, its subject matter being incorporated into claim 1. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102.

I. Section 112 Rejections

As originally filed, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The claims are amended to overcome these rejections.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks Examiner Prunner for her statement that the subject matter of claims 3-4 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112 and in independent form, and that claims 6-8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Claim 3 is canceled and its subject matter is incorporated into independent claim 1. However, the subject matter of intervening claim 2 is not incorporated into claim 1 because the recitations "each half being a single unitary piece," and "a hinge hingedly interconnecting said halves" are not necessary for patentability. It therefore is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2 and 4-8 present allowable subject matter in allowable form.

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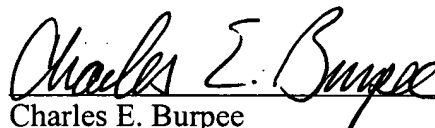
III. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly and respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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